Newsletter

St Osmund's CE Middle School
Hope · Community · Respect · Love

Friday 2nd October

Dear Ossie's Families,

It's been a busy half term so far as our students and staff settle back to the Ossie's way of doing things. For me it's been absolutely lovely to be back at work after a such a long absence following a serious injury. Catching up with children, staff and parents alike has been a real pleasure. The children have grown so much!

Thank you for purchasing everything your Ossie needs to be **ready** for learning including the correct uniform and equipment for learning. At this point in the term, pens and pencils can sometimes be lost or broken so please find the time to check that they still have everything they need to make the most of the valuable learning time. Thank you for also supporting home learning at home. We appreciate that it's not always the easiest time of the day! Research shows that home learning encourages independence and creates the opportunity for learning to be revisited and consolidated away from the classroom. Homework completion to a good standard also leads to better academic outcomes at GCSE, which is why we are building good habits early.

Our Ossie's culture is based on two other words **respectful** and **safe.** This includes verbal, physical and online behaviours. For the last two weeks we have been reminding all students of this and we have been using the phrase '**kind words, hands off'** to summarise our expectations. We are also reminding all children that walking away from any issues and telling an adult are the two most important things to do.

Relationships have always been a very important part of Ossie's. Year 8 were given the opportunity to apply to become a Buddy+ or Anti-bullying Ambassadors and we were absolutely delighted with the number of children who have put themselves forward for these roles. I think it's a real reflection of our Ossie's culture and how important it feels to many of them to give something back to the school that they love being a part of.

On that note, next week on Wednesday 7th October is our Tutor evening. This is a joint opportunity to strengthen relationships and share any successes or concerns. In order to be able to offer everyone an appointment these are five minutes in length. However, you are welcome to make a longer appointment with your child's tutor on a different day should you wish to do so.

Thank you for your ongoing support for your Ossie and for us as a school. When schools and families work well together it doubles the chance of a child's success.

I wish you a very happy weekend, however you choose to spend it.

Mrs Lynda Staddon

lynda Staddon

Assistant Headteacher
(Behaviour and Attitudes)



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Tuesday 6th October—Year 5 Welcome Service

Tuesday 6th October – Frossies AGM – 5pm

Wednesday 7th October—Tutor/Parent Consultation Evening

Thursday 8th October—Open Morning for Prospective Parents

Wednesday 14th October – Year 6 Height & Weight Measurements

Wednesday 14th October— Year 8 Ski Trip Parents Information Evening—5pm

Thursday 15th October—5pm—Open Evening for Prospective Parents

Friday 16th October—Harvest Collection Worship (more details to follow)

Tuesday 20th October – School Disco

Tuesday 20th October—Last day of school

HALF TERM—21st October—30th October

31st October—Deadline for applying for Upper School (Year 8 Parents)

Monday 2nd November—BACK TO SCHOOL

Wednesday 11th November—Flu Vaccinations

Monday 16th November Odd Socks Day

Thursday 19th November—Just The Two Of Us

REMINDER: ABSENCE EMAILS

For illness or medical absences please contact the school on each day of absence to inform us. This can be done by either, phoning the school, email: absence@stosmunds.wessex.ac or by leaving a telephone message on the school office absence line. There is also a yellow button on the front page of our school website.

If your child has a medical appointment, please provide the appropriate evidence e.g. appointment card.

POPPY APPEAL

From Monday 5th October, we will be raisings vital funds for the poppy appeal. Paper poppies and other merchandise will be available in the office at break and lunchtime. Cash only.



OSSIE'S OPPORTUNITIES

If your child would like to attend a club, they do not need to sign up in advance, they can just attend on the day (with the exception of pickleball, gardening club & concert band).

	LUNCH	AFTER SCHOOL 3.15pm - 4.15pm
MONDAY	Zoneball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Zoneball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 Reading Club – SCA – Room 10 OCAG – KS3 – HMU – Room 20	Wonderland Rehearsals – Y6 - Y8 – SSH – Music Room – see rehearsal schedule in newsletter KS2 Football – DKI / SDA / JFO—Field Netball – KS3 – ERE & JHA – Top Courts Basketball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Hall
TUESDAY	Street Soccer – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Street Soccer – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 Creative Writing Club – SCA – Room 10	Wonderland Rehearsals – Y6 – Y8 – SSH – Music Room - see rehearsal schedule in newsletter Football – KS3 – DKI – Field Netball – KS2 – WDA – Top Courts Art & Textiles – KS3 – SPA/SST – Art & Textiles Room
WEDSNESDAY	Basketball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Basketball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre OCAG – KS3 -HMU – Room 20	Pickleball – All Years – Sign up required
THURSDAY	GIRLS Street Soccer – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre GIRLS Street Soccer – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 OCAG – SCA – Room 10	2.45 - 3.15pm - Concert Band—KS3—SSH—Music—INVITE ONLY Basketball – KS3 – DRO & WDA – Sports Hall Rock & Pop Club – All Years – SSH – Music Room Gardening Club – All Years – Outside room 3 - (sign up with Miss Pike first before attending) Rugby – KS3 – DKI & GBI – Field Chess Club – CMI - Library
FRIDAY	Dodgeball – KS2 – WDA – Sports Centre Dodgeball – KS3 - WDA – Sports Centre KS2 Korean Club – SCA – Room 10 Comic Club – KS2 – SPA – Textiles Room	Badminton – Year 8 – Sports Centre Girls Rugby – KS3 – DKI - Field

FROSSIES

Frossie's are currently seeking more volunteers to help us with our events, such as the upcoming silent disco. There is absolutely no expectation to help at every event - we have a casual WhatsApp group where we post details of what is coming up, and people can offer their support if they are available.

We organise the silent discos and the annual Ossie's Fest, as well as providing support to other events in the school. These events are always hugely popular with the children and they raise vital funds for school projects, such as replacing the school minibus. We genuinely could not run these events without volunteer support, which is why we are reaching out.

If you would be able to support us in any way, no matter how small, then please send your details to **frossies@stosmunds.wessex.ac** and we can add you to the WhatsApp group. Alternatively, come along to our AGM on **6th October, 5pm at the school**. We'd love to see you there and tell you more about Frossie's and how you could get involved.

SLOWWORMS

At St Osmund's we are fortunate to have the grounds we have surrounding the school, grounds that we share with others. We often see Hedgehog's at this time of year, but this week we had another visitor. I say visitor, but actually, they have been seen on rare occasions for many years. They normally hide well away from the feet of our pupils, so it was a surprise to find one out in the playground. A Slowworm, a legless lizard, completely harmless to humans but a threat to insects' worms and slugs. This one looks like a young one, probably from this season, venturing out on its own. It has been relocated to a safer part of our grounds. Let's continue to share our school with the wildlife that chooses to call our school its home.



YEAR 5 RETREAT DAY

Every Year, each year group has a Retreat Day devoted to Christian and spiritual development. These days are very important to us as a flourishing church school.
Today's activities for Year 5 included:

- learning about St. Osmund (the first Bishop of Salisbury),
- walking through the Bible with Mr Trowbridge,
- School values orienteering,
- I-Sing-Pop (learning new Christian songs) to perform in whole school collective worship this afternoon and in next week's Year 5 Welcome Service,
- Art session, to form a beautiful display

See more photos on our facebook page.



REHEARSAL PLAN FOR WONDERLAND—AUTUMN 1

Rehearsal plan for "Wonderland" – Autumn 1

Please find below the plan for this half term's rehearsals. Please do check it carefully – we are rehearsing things out of sequence in some weeks! Do email me on lmacnair@stosmunds.wessex.ac if you are unsure. We are not rehearsing with the Y6 and Y7 chorus on Tuesdays – the hope is that this gives the opportunity for these Ossies to attend another club on a Tuesday after school, should they wish.

After half term, Monday rehearsals for Wonderland will be suspended, and will turn into preparations for the Carol Service at the end of term, so our full cast will be required each Monday for these practices – we are very much hoping that all the cast will want to participate as part of the choir for this important school event. Tuesday afternoons will continue to be small group rehearsals for individual characters/ scenes.

WONDERLAND - AUTUMN 1

Monday 5th October	All songs and dances	Full Cast
Tuesday 6th October	Scene 8	All Alices, White Rabbit, All Playing Cards, King, Queen, Mad Hatter, Dormouse, Head Cook, Mum, Dad
Monday 12th October	Scene 4 Mad Hatter's Tea Party (dance)	Alice 4, Cooks, Cheshire Cat, Caterpillar, Duchess Alice 5, Mad Hatter, Dormouse, March Hare, All Y6 and Y7 Chorus
Tuesday 13th October	Scene 5 Falling (movement)	Alice 5, Cheshire Cat, Mad Hatter, March Hare, Dormouse Alice 1, White Rabbit
Monday 19th October	Mad Hatter's Tea Party (dance) All Alone in Wonderland (movement)	Alice 5, Mad Hatter, Dormouse, March Hare, All Y6 and Y7 Chorus Alice 3
Tuesday 20th October	Oh, my ears and whiskers! (movement)	Alice 2, White Rabbit

JUST THE TWO OF US!

Tickets are now available to purchase via Arbor!





SILENT DISCO

Tickets are now available to purchase on Arbor. If you are in receipt of targeted or Ever 6 pupil premium, there will be no cost but a ticket still needs to be purchased via Arbor.



OSSIES OPEN DAYS

Open Days

St Osmund's CE Middle School
Hope · Community · Respect · Love

We are welcoming parents of all Year 4 students, from any school, to come and visit our setting during our upcoming open days. You'll be able to chat to teachers, meet current students and discover how our Christian values of hope, community, respect and love run through our school. The school was judged as Good by OfSTED in all inspection areas (September 2022) and received a strong SIAMS report (January 2026). You are welcome to one or both events:

OPEN MORNINGS

The best way to learn about St Osmund's School is to witness a day in action. See our engaged, motivated pupils and staff working together to create an inspiring and nurturing environment, where pupils achieve their very best.

Thursday 8th October—Tours at 9am or 11am

Wednesday 18th November—Tours at 9am or 11am

Tuesday 8th December—Tours at 9am or 11am

Wednesday 13th January— Tours at 9am or 11am

Book your ticket now on Ticket Source: www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-osmunds-school

OPEN EVENING

Join us on Thursday 15th October, 5pm – 6.30pm, for an informative talk with Mr Biddle, the Head of School, and a tour of the school. You will have an opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Book your ticket now on Ticket Source: www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-osmunds-school

OSSIE'S ECO-CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Bring the whole family to our exciting Christmas Fayre on Friday 4th December, for another chance to see our school. The fayre is organised by our OCAG (Ossie's Climate Action Group) students and has an eco-theme. There will be stalls, food and exciting games. See our Facebook page for more details.



Ofsted Good Provider

There is no parking on site. Please park considerately on the surrounding roads.

Barnes Way, Dorchester, DT1 2DZ T: 01305 262897

www.stosmunds.wessex.ac /stosmundsschool

WHEN THE ADULTS CHANGE PARTNER SCHOOL

Fun for all the family

FOREST PRAISE

Songs, Stories & lots of Messy Crafts!



Tea, Coffee, Bacon Rolls & Vegan Sausages



FREE

10.30-12.00

Last Saturday of the month

St George's Church Hall

United Church Dorchester | St George's Church

FUNDRAISING AUCTION – FORMER STUDENT, JACOB!



JAZZ PERFORMANCE & WORKSHOP

'Beyond the Hills & Valleys' – jazz performance and workshop this Sunday in Bridport

Dorset Music Service and Devon Music Education Hub have been working in partnership with Superlocrian to run the Beyond the Hills & Valleys composing competition. Musicians aged 11-19 were invited to compose original music inspired by the natural world and the environment. The competition provided a high-level composing opportunity, with the selected composers receiving professional mentoring, feedback and the opportunity to develop their music with Superlocrian.

18-year-old composer Freya Murray from Dorchester has been announced as the winner of the competition. Her composition, alongside works by three other selected young composters, will be premiered by chamber-jazz septet Superlocrian at a **performance at Bridport Arts Centre this Sunday (4th October) at 6:30pm.** There will also be two more world premieres from acclaimed composers Laura Rossi and Iain Ballamy, along with music from Superlocrian's critically acclaimed debut album.

For young instrumentalists Grade 3 and above, there will be an afternoon workshop from 3:00pm – 4:30pm.

For more details and to book tickets for the workshop and performance, visit: **Superlocrian 'Beyond The Hills and Valleys' Tour - Bridport Arts.**

LOCAL FOOD LINKS COMPETITION

DESIGN A Christmas Jumper



In honour of this years **'Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day'** we need your child's help – by drawing or painting the design for a Christmas Jumper.

The only things we ask are: the image represents the theme of Christmas, it is A4 in size, please do not use a jumper template as we need the image to be printed onto a jumper and the work of art should be sent to us via email – other than that your child can be as creative as they want!

It's totally free to enter and your child could **win their design printed on a jumper ready for Christmas Jumper day.**

What to do:

1. Draw your Christmas design on an A4 piece of plain paper. Please **DO NOT** use or draw a jumper template.







2. Please include your child's name, age, class, year and school on your email.

3. Email your design to **comps@localfoodlinks.org. uk by Monday 16th November.**

We will accept the following file types: PDF or JPG.

LOCAL FOOD LINKS

OCTOBER HALF TERM



Rotary YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION

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INFORMATION PACK

2026-27

ROTARYGBI.ORG

Rotary Great Britain & Ireland

Rotary YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION



INFORMATION PACK

2026-27

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Rotary
Great Britain & Ireland

Rotary YOUNG WRITER COMPETITION



INFORMATION PACK

2026-27

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YOUTH MUSIC WESSEX

YOUTH MUSIC WESSEX

Hello Cello!

Beginner cello classes for newbie musical explorers

Saturdays 9am - 9.40am



Group learning from as little as **£5** per week
with optional additional one to one **"lessons with the pros"**
Get ready to make those floorboards rumble!

For further information on the class, instrument loan and bursaries, please visit: www.youthmusicwessex.org/hello-cello.html or use the QR code opposite

Scan me!

Supported by WYMT Wessex Young Musicians' Trust

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Registered Address: Lytchett Minster School, Post Green Road, Lytchett Minster, Poole, BH16 6JD

YOUTH MUSIC WESSEX CIC



DORCHESTER YOUNG MUSICIAN FESTIVAL

For all young musicians in Dorchester and the surrounding area

SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2026

THOMAS HARDYE SCHOOL

9:30AM - 5PM

Rotary Dorchester Casterbridge

WESSEX SCHOOLS MUSIC

music.wessex.ac

OCTAGON MUSIC HUB

WESSEX RECORDERS

YOUTH MUSIC WESSEX CIC

Are you a budding musical explorer? Then look no further - because your journey begins on Saturday mornings in **Wessex!**

Come and join your fellow explorers, at the

Wessex Recorders

- an accessible gateway to the world of music-making for beginners and beyond.

Group classes, one-to-one lessons and the

Wessex Recorder Ensemble

- for players of grades 2-5.



https://www.youthmusicwessex.org/wessex-recorders.html

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COME AND JOIN YOUR NEW TEAM OF EXPLORERS FOR

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Book online as required

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(*3 week courses). Age range 5 years and above.
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